



CALPEEK

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PART 21: L.A. SPORTS ARENA A DONE DEAL. L.A.'s FOCUS NOW SHIFTS TO PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL.

Editor's note: L.A. Councilman Joel Wachs and the developers of a proposed \$240 million sports arena next to the Convention Center both declared their happiness over a new agreement which dramatically reduces any taxpayer liability should the new facility not meet financial expectations. Here is Part XXI in our continuing series of reports about *public funding of sports facilities*

...Despite all the happy talk, the Wachs initiative to force a vote when public funds are used to build sports facilities will go forward as planned *after* the council gives its final OK to this revised deal. According to Wachs' consultant, Rick Taylor, there are actually two versions of this initiative: one exempts the arena, the other one doesn't...

...In the meantime, attention is shifting to L.A.'s lack of an NFL team and time has finally run out on *The New Coliseum* as "the exclusive" venue for a new pro football franchise. Lots of politics involved, too...

...Edward Roski & Philip Anschutz, who also are the developers involved in the arena proposal, had at one time said they planned to rebuild the Coliseum at a cost of \$300 million --- with *no public funding*. In an apparent *flip-flop*, both the *L.A. Times* and *Daily News* are reporting that Roski is now floating a 50/50 deal, with \$150 million to come from *surplus state sales taxes*. A likely reason why Roski may have flipped is because when it comes to building new stadiums, the NFL *demands* a private/public partnership (80% to 20% is the minimum)...

...The big problem, of course, is the public funding. Without it, sources say, the Roski plan is DOA - and

Calpeek sources think any State or L.A. Co. participation is *unlikely* because there are just too many other priorities which require big bucks. *Daily News* reporter Rick Orlov quotes State Sen. Richard Polanco(D-L.A.), a critic of the *New Coliseum*, as saying Roski's new funding plan was "classic bait & switch."...

...So where does this leave the greater L.A. area and the NFL? Although L.A. Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas remains hopeful that the *New Coliseum* will ultimately be selected as a site for a new franchise, *Calpeek* sources aren't as confident. These sources don't rule out Inglewood(R.D. Hubbard), Chavez Ravine(O'Malley & Murdock) or South Park (with a group headed by Lod Cooke). Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON GOVERNOR'S RACE.

Editor's note: The *L.A. Times* just released a new poll on the '98 Calif. Governor's race: sample size 1,092 registered voters, Oct. 4-7, margin of error 3%. Here is *Calpeek's* analysis. Next week: polling data on the U.S. Senate race...

...The new numbers are *not* good news for GOP Attorney General Dan Lungren. Here's the way the major players in the governor's race fared in the *open primary*. (RV = registered voters):

	RV	Demos	GOP
Dianne Feinstein(D)	36	52	16
Dan Lungren(R)	31	8	63
Gray Davis(D)	11	16	4
John Vasconcellos(D)	3	4	1
Al Checchi(D)	1	1	1
Don't Know	18	18	18

...The problem for Lungren is his GOP base. In an open primary, without *any GOP opposition*, Lungren is only pulling 63% of the Republican vote. Lungren

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should be 10-12 points higher. What's the problem? The campaign hasn't really kicked into high gear, but beyond that, Lungren has 3 trouble spots: **1)** choice; **2)** tobacco (he was slow to act in getting Calif. involved in the big lawsuit); and **3)** guns (Lungren's response to enforcing the assault weapons law has been limp). These are all key issues with voters. Aside from these 3 specific problem areas, Lungren must also deal with the fundamental GOP problem which is a rapidly declining white, male voting base...

...On the Demo side, this new data probably means that Demo insiders will be pushing even harder to get DiFi into the governor's race. HOWEVER. If DiFi were to stay out of the governor's race, here's how they fare...

	<u>RV</u>	<u>Demos</u>	<u>GOP</u>
Lungren(R)	33	10	69
Davis(D)	20	32	5
Panetta(D)	12	19	3
Connell(D)	8	9	5
Vasconcellos(D)	4	6	2
Checchi(D)	2	2	1
Don't Know	21	22	15

...The Demo who benefits most without DiFi is Lt. Gov. Gray Davis. The Demos who probably jump into the race because DiFi is out are former White House chief of staff Leon Panetta and Controller Kathleen Connell. In 1-on-1 matches, both DiFi and Davis top Lungren, while the AG soundly beats Vasco and tops Checchi by 20 points...

Davis(D) 45% vs. Lungren(R) 40%
Feinstein(D) 50% vs. Lungren(R) 41%
Vasconcellos(D) 30% vs. Lungren(R) 51%
Checchi(D) 29% vs. Lungren(R) 49%

...FYI: Checchi's name ID is still low at 15%, but that's an improvement over an earlier May '97 poll by Mervin Field which showed Checchi's name ID at only 8-9%. Among the Demos, he's the one the Republicans fear most because if he's the nominee, he won't think twice about paying \$3-5 million for the Demo coordinated campaign's registration & GOTV effort. Stay tuned...

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CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: 3 MORE PROPOSALS GET THE OKAY TO BEGIN COLLECTING SIGNATURES.
 Editor's note: There are now 16 initiatives in circulation and another 13 at the Calif. AG's office awaiting *title & summary*. 8 measures have already qualified for the June 2, 1998 ballot. Here's a brief update...

☒ Taxes. Corporations. Initiative Statute is the official title of this measure which would require the tax rate on corporate income to be the same as the tax rate on personal income. This measure also repeals all those tax credits and breaks given to business since Jan. 1, 1991. The author is Lenny Goldberg of the *Calif. Tax Reform Assn.* (916)446-4300. This is the measure which is meant to retaliate against Gov. Wilson for his support of an initiative aimed at organized labor. Goldberg has until Feb. 23rd to collect 433,269 valid signatures...

...FYI: the measure aimed at labor requires unions to get an OK from members before withholding dues for political purposes. GOP sources say this measure will qualify, but the early *Republican spin* that this proposal was a slam dunk winner appears off the mark. A new *L.A. Times* survey shows this initiative going down by a margin of 33% yes vs. 59% no, with 8% undecided...

☒ Limiting Terms of Elective Office. Initiative Constitutional Amendment is the official title of yet another term limit plan -- this one by Riverside resident Walter J. Deal. He has until Feb. 27 to collect 693,230 valid signatures. No phone for Mr. Deal...

☒ Sales & Use Taxes. Reallocation. Initiative Constitutional Amendment is the official name of this proposal by Cary Kalscheuer(626)332-4044. The deadline for collecting 693,230 signatures is Feb. 27...

...FYI: Among the 13 initiatives at the AG's office is a constitutional amendment by actor/director Rob Reiner called the *Calif. Children & Families First Act of 1998*. It would impose a 50-cent per pack tax on cigarettes (raising \$900 million annually), with the revenue going to health care & social services for pre-natal care, infants and pre-schoolers. This measure will be ready for the streets by Nov. 21st. Newport Beach-based Forde & Mollrich are the consultants. Stay tuned...

46th AD SPECIAL UPDATE: A FIELD OF 9 FOR NOV. 18.

Editor's note: There are 9 candidates running in the Nov. 18th special to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Assemblyman Louis Caldera(D-L.A.). Caldera left the assembly to take a job in DC with the Clinton Administration. Here's our brief update...

...The Demos in this special are: LAUSD member Vickie Castro; former labor leader Gil Cedillo; attorney Ricardo Torres; attorney Manuel Diaz; and activist Marijane Jackson. Voter registration is overwhelmingly Democratic, so the Demo winner here is a slam dunk to be elected in a Jan. 13th runoff. FYI: the first hits have already begun to fly. One is aimed at Cedillo and another at Torres. These hit mailers (reprints of news articles & letters) were **not** IDed, so it's impossible to tell who is sending them out...

...On the GOP side, the candidates are: Andrew Kim; Robert Galvan; and Khalil Khalil. Patrick Westerberg is a Libertarian candidate...

...Of the Demos, the first three are the heavyweights and have all hired professional campaign consultants. Parke Skelton is working on behalf of Cedillo; Phil Giarrizzo has been hired by Castro; and Larry Levine has been hired by Torres...

...FYI: The Eastside Demo Club will hold a candidate's forum at 6:30 p.m., Oct. 22, White Memorial Hospital cafeteria in Boyle Heights. For info ☎ Alvin Parra (213)342-9095. Stay tuned...

LATE FALL ELECTIONS: CITY & COUNTY CONTESTS

Editor's note: Here's another brief update on the upcoming election Nov. 4th in *San Francisco*...

...With S.F. City Attorney Louise Renne running unopposed and S.F. Treasurer candidate Sup. Susan Leal facing two unknowns, voters have turned their attention to 3 hot ballot measures...

...Of these 3 measures, "G" could have the biggest impact in Calif., because if it passes, other jurisdictions may attempt to force *political consultants to register*. The author is Sup. Tom Ammiano, who is a major critic of S.F. Mayor Willie Brown. Some sources suspect Ammiano is using "G" as a boost for '98 when he

and Sup. Mabel Teng will battle for the presidency of the Board of Supes. The NO side (*San Franciscans Opposed to Excessive Regulation*) have most of the major endorsements, but there's a feeling among that the DNC-White House fundraising brouhaha in DC is working against them. They're probably right...

...Measure "H" to retrofit the Central Freeway, is being pushed by S.F.'s Chinese community and is seen as a test of their political muscle. The *Committee to Save the Central Freeway* collected 30,000 signatures to place H on the ballot. The cost to retrofit the freeway (damaged in the 1989 earthquake) is estimated at \$52 million. Opponents, including most of the Bay Area's environmental groups, say "H" is *ballot box engineering* and thus is not a good idea. Consultant Robert Barnes is on the NO side, while Jim Ross is working on the YES side. A 3-week-old survey by Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin showed YES ahead: 52% yes, 30% no, with 18% undecided...

...The final hot measure is "F." It is a land use proposal to save the cross atop Mt. Davidson. The cross was on city land and courts told the city to take it down. The Council of Armenian Organizations of No. Calif. and offers to buy the land for \$26,000. No problem, except the deal has to be approved by voters. YES on F has hired consultant John Whitehurst and pollster David Binder because the Turkish American Assn. Cmt. opposes the deal. They've done some local newspaper ads, but little else. No need to rehash the problems between Armenians and Turks. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on U.S. House races in Calif., with the emphasis on fundraising activities and other bits of useful information. **Calpeek** used the FEC website to gather info on fundraising activity...

☒ **22nd CD** - This is the Santa Barbara CD now represented by Demo freshman Walter Capps, who ousted GOP Congresswoman Andrea Seastrand in '96. There's been lots of speculation whether Seastrand would try to recapture her seat, but on Sept. 22nd the former congresswoman took herself OUT of the running for '98. This now leaves the path clear for former Santa Barbara Co. Sup. Michael Stoker(R) to challenge Capps *without* a brutal primary. There's no love lost

between Stoker & Seastrand and a primary between these two would have been very bitter. Here is where Capps and Stoker now stand in terms of fundraising:

	<u>Contributions</u>	<u>COH</u>
Capps(D-Inc.)	\$46,750	\$48,485*
Stoker(R)	\$24,613	\$22,853

* Capps has a debt of \$8,000.

☒ **10th CD** - This is the Contra Costa/Alameda Co. CD of freshman Demo Ellen Tauscher of Walnut Creek, who is on a short list of Demo House members who might run for a leadership job in the 106th Congress. This assumes she'll be reelection in '98, which seems likely at this point. Like Jane Harman in So. Calif., Tauscher is building a base of GOP and independent voters she can count on for support. The only GOP name to surface in the 10th CD is that of ex-Congressman Bill Baker, who was defeated by Tauscher in '96...

	<u>Contributions</u>	<u>COH</u>
Tauscher(D-Inc.)	\$77,036	\$43,285*
Baker(R)	\$10,847	\$70,252

* Tauscher has a debt of \$1.7 million...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ ***The High Cost of Political Correctness*** - West Hollywood was the one CA city which was really hoping that Gov. Pete Wilson would sign SB 500 (the ban on *Saturday Night Special* cheap handguns). It was the *first city* to pass a ban on SNS handguns and laws in some 30 other CA cities are modeled after WH's. For its action, WH was sued by the Calif. Rifle & Pistol Assn. Although *promises* of financial help were made to WH by those pushing for gun control, so far WH has had to foot the legal bill alone. How much? The *L.A. Times* said the cost was \$250,000. That's a high price for political correctness and the legal battle isn't over...

■ ***OnLine Campaign Filing*** - Gov. Wilson has signed SB 49 by Sen. Betty Karnette(D-Long Beach), which requires mandatory electronic filing and internet disclosure of campaign finance info by 2000. In '98 it will be voluntary. This is true campaign reform...

■ ***Dornan Files for Campaign '98*** - Former Congressman Bob Dornan has filed paperwork to run for his old 46th CD job. In last week's **Calpeek**, we put the odds at 50/50 that he'd run again. What this does in terms of other GOP candidates who want to run against Demo freshman U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez is not clear just yet. FYI: O.C. Sup. Court Judge James P. Gray(R) also plans to run in the 46th CD in '98...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● A sad note: USC poli-sci Prof. William W. Lammers, Ph.D., died Oct. 7 of colon cancer. He was 60. Lammers was an authority on presidential politics and had been with USC since 1964. R.I.P...

● Steve Alexander has been promoted to VP of public affairs in the San Diego office of Stoorza, Ziegus & Metzger. He joined the firm in 1995...

● Armando E. Azarloza, U.S. Rep. Buck McKeon's top aide/press secretary for the past 5 years, has resigned to become managing director of the L.A. office of Bozell Sawyer Miller Group...

● The Sacto office of APCO Associates has added Martin R. Wilson as a sr. counselor and Susan Bitar as a project associate...

FORMER L.A. CO. SUP. KENNETH HAHN DIES AT 77
Although best known for his 40 years of service on the L.A. Co. Board of Supervisors, Hahn was first elected to the L.A. City Council in 1947 at age 26. In 1952 he was elected to the Board of Supes. If all elected officials had been like Hahn, there'd be no need for *term limits*. He was a true New Dealer, wasn't ashamed of the word *liberal* and also was one of the sharpest *politicians* you'll ever meet. In 1987 he suffered a stroke, but was reelected in 1988 and stayed on the job until his retirement in 1992. He died Oct. 12th and will be missed very much by his family and friends and by 9 million residents of L.A. Co., who probably don't realize how much they owe to this man who put in 50+ years of public service. If anyone ever deserved the title of L.A.'s first *County Mayor*, it was Hahn. R.I.P...